

WELLINGTON SCHOOL

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Dates for your Diary

Monday 4 May:	S1/S2 Examinations begin
Tuesday 5 May:	S4 Study Leave begins
Monday 11 May:	S3 Examinations begin
Thursday 14 May:	S5/6 Study Leave begins
Wednesday 20 May:	S1 Parents' Evening
Thursday 21 May:	S2 Parents' Evening
Friday 22 May:	School closes for mid term
Tuesday 26 May:	Pupils return to School 8.50 a.m.
Summer Uniform compulsory from today	
Friday 29 May:	S4 return from study leave
Wednesday 3 June:	P7 Parents' Evening
Thursday 4 June:	P7 & S3 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 9 June:	S5/6 return from Study Leave
Thursday 11 June:	Nursery/Infant Sports Day
Tuesday 16 June:	Nursery-P6 Parents' Evening
Friday 19 June:	Sports Day rehearsal
Monday 22 June:	Sports Day
Wednesday 24 June:	Nursery & Infant Prize Giving
Friday 26 June:	Speech Day, Ayr Town Hall

WELLINGTON NEWSLETTER



May 2009

Wellington News Update

WELLINGTON SCHOOL

Easter 2009 Trip to Rome and the Bay of Naples

The day after the Spring Term ended 31 pupils, accompanied by Mr Helps, Mr Ness, Mrs Hemmings and Miss Ostrowski, spent a week exploring the Classical sites of Rome and the Bay of Naples. Sunday was spent visiting the glories of the Colosseum and the Roman Forum, dodging the showers – the umbrella man did a roaring trade! On Monday the group visited the Pantheon and the Piazza Navona. The queues for St Peter's Basilica were thankfully short and the artwork and sculptures were breathtaking. The highlight of the Vatican Museum was undoubtedly the Sistine Chapel, with Michelangelo's frescos. After braving the Rome Metro the group arrived at the Spanish Steps and threw their coins into the Trevi Fountain.

Tuesday was transfer day from Rome to Sorrento whilst Wednesday was taken up with a full day visit to Pompeii, the setting for the S1/2 Latin course book. Walking through the streets and seeing the buildings mentioned in the course made it all much more meaningful. For many the walk up Mount Vesuvius on Thursday morning was the highlight of the whole holiday. The view into the crater was stunning and the echoes amazing. Herculaneum, which had been buried under 50 ft of volcanic mud when Vesuvius erupted in 79 A.D., was an interesting excursion later in the day. Much quieter than Pompeii it had its own charm and the weather was glorious.

Friday gave the group a chance to relax in Sorrento with some "retail therapy" and to sample real Italian cuisine. Finally thirty-one exhausted but happy charges were handed over to their parents at Prestwick on Saturday, and hopefully this enjoyable trip has given pupils the inspiration to visit Italy at leisure for themselves at a later date.

Success at Rugby Sevens Tournament

On 23rd March, a squad of 10 Wellington boys made history by becoming the first ever Wellington team to win the Glasgow High Rugby Sevens Tournament. After winning their opening matches 36-0 and 38-14, they faced a very talented Glasgow Academy in the semi-finals. Wellington dominated play and emerged as winners with a score of 19-7. In a tense final against St Aloysius, Wellington had a shaky start, with St Aloysius having the majority of possession before opening the scoring. Instead of bowing down to defeat, Wellington upped their game, bringing the score level at half time. The second half was a different story with Wellington dominating, sending them into the lead. A third try from Stuart Howie secured Wellington a 17-5 victory and the title. Wellington's attacking prowess and outstanding defence led to their achievement with the boys scoring 18 tries and conceding just 4. Vice captain Daniel Robb led the team up to collect their medals, allowing captain Stuart Howie to collect the trophy.

Team coach Mr Ness commented: 'I was delighted with the effort and teamwork shown throughout the tournament. The boys attacked very cleverly and defended courageously. They maintained possession well and were strong at the breakdowns and during set piece play. To win a tournament of this scale is a huge achievement for Wellington'.

Team: Stuart Howie, Daniel Robb, Scott Cunningham, Robbie Fergusson, Peter McCallum, Burns Tennent-Bhohi and Andrew Thomson. Subs: Douglas Campbell, Gregor McCallum and Campbell Swinley.

Stuart Howie, Team Captain

Allister Boyd

Wellington pupils and staff were saddened to hear of the death of Allister Boyd on 4th April 2009. Allister was a true inspiration and achieved more in his 20 years than many do in a lifetime. He was the public face of the Teenage Cancer Trust, for which he raised hundreds of thousands of pounds, and was the motivation behind our choice of Sixth Year Charity. Our deepest sympathies go out to Allister's parents and his brother Russell. At present the Sixth Year has raised just over £17,000 for the Teenage Cancer Trust and we hope to add to this over the coming weeks. We appreciate your continued support in our efforts.

Michael and Abby

SPORTS NEWS

Hockey Results

Playing against **Craigholme School**:

1st year team won 1-0
All other teams lost their games.

Playing against **Marr College**

1st XI won 1-0
and reached the final of the Betty McCallum Knockout Cup.

vs **Jordanhill School**

1st XI lost 1-2
2nd XI won 1-0
Junior A lost 0-5
Junior B lost 0-1
1st Year won 8-0
P7 won 5-2
P 6/7 won 7-0

vs **Lomond School**

1st XI lost 2-3
2nd XI drew 0-0
S3 lost 0-5
S2 lost 0-4
S1 won 3-2
P7 won 6-0
P 6/7 won 6-0

vs **Kilwinning Academy**

S2 won 2-0
S1 won 8-0
Junior A won 6-1

vs **Hamilton College**

S3/4 team won 2-0
P7 won 3-0

Scottish Schools Swimming Championships

TOLLCROSS SWIMMING POOL 31 JANUARY 2009

Wellington Swimmers were a credit to the School when they competed in the finals of the Scottish Schools Swimming Championships. The three swimmers all gained personal best times:

Craig Corson	15/16	200-IM	2.20.92	Silver Medal
		200-Breast	2.43.51	PB
Blair Stevenson	13/14	100-Fly	1.16.88	PB

Rugby Results

vs **Glasgow Academy**

S1 lost 4-22
P7 lost 4-10
P6 drew 3 tries all

vs **Marr College**

S3/4 won 48-10

The other three teams lost

vs **Kelvinside Academy**

S1 lost 12-13
P7 won 11-3
P6 drew 5 tries all

vs **St Columba's**

S2 won 15-14
S3/4 won 25-16

vs **Former Pupils**

The 1st XV won 41-0

vs **Morrison's Academy**

1st XV lost 10-17

vs **Carrick Academy**

1st XV lost 7-20
S3/4 drew 15-15

vs **Jordanhill School**

1st XV won 31-25
S3/4 lost by 7 tries
S2/3 won 12-10
S1 won 44-0
P7 won 40-0

vs **Queen Victoria School**

1st XV won 28-19
S3/4 lost 3-10
S1 drew 6-6
P7 won 35-0

vs **Lenzie Academy**

S1/2 won 18-3

vs **Hutchesons' Grammar School**

S3/4 lost 10-15
S2/3 lost 3-22
S1 won 60-0
P7/S1 lost 6-18
P6 drew 4 tries all

The Wellington team were winners of the **Ayrshire School's Senior Rugby 7's** at Marr College.

SCHOOL NEWS

Art and Design

The Art and Design department are delighted that Emma MacLeay S2 and Gemma Travers S3 have been Highly Commended in the Friends of the Royal Scottish Academy Schools' Art Awards. Their work was exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy in Edinburgh.

Sixteen senior pupils had their work exhibited in the Maclaurin Galleries recently in an excellent display of the very high standards achieved in last year's national examinations.

There has been lots of fun and frantic activity at Art Club every Monday and Tuesday night, for example making Mothers' Day gifts, silk painting, making props for the one act plays and for some of the S3-5 pupils, completing the skills part of their Duke of Edinburgh award.

The department also hosted a puppet making workshop for Ayrshire Young Arts in February.

Our Second Year pupils designed posters for the school show. Many of these went on exhibition at the Palace Theatre after first being used to advertise 'Disco Inferno' around our own school buildings. Eilidh Armstrong's winning design appeared as the cover for the programme.

Flo Gordon and Rebecca Foran S6 have been busy preparing their portfolios for Art School interviews. The girls have been attending twilight life drawing classes at Glasgow School of Art to add to their Advanced Higher and sketch book work.

Other news

- The Young Enterprise company competed in the Ayrshire Finals Evening on Thursday 30 April, at the Park Hotel in Kilmarnock.
- Please remember to collect the 'Tesco for Schools' vouchers up until 7th June 2009.
- Primary 6 visited The Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh as guests of John Scott, MSP who gave us a guided tour of the building.
- Well done to everyone who competed in this year's Music Festival in Speech and Drama, Music and Scottish Country Dancing.
- Congratulations to the Public Speaking Team of Gillian Howie, Sophia Loughlin and Gregor Feeney who came second in the Rotary Youth Speaks West of Scotland Final at Paisley in February.
- At the Scottish Schools' Cross Country Championships on 14th March, the S1 team all finished in the top half of the field of 105 runners and were 6th in the competition.
- Once again our Bags2school appeal before the Easter holidays was a great success. We are currently waiting to hear how much was raised.
- Please note that there was an error in the Summer Term calendar. The Art Spectacular was listed as being on both the 2nd & 3rd of June, but it is in fact **only** on Wednesday 3rd June from 2-8 p.m.

Disco Inferno

Well, that's the flares, platform shoes and ridiculous wigs away for another spell! What a great run the school Show had at the Palace Theatre at the end of term.

All the cast were so enthusiastic and gave their all.

Special mention to all the 'backroom staff' who are so often overlooked, but do a vital job in keeping things running smoothly behind the scenes.

As always, many thanks to all of you who made the Show the success it undoubtedly was. Your hard work and dedication are much appreciated. Well done everyone!

Comenius Project

This term the school has been working together with our partners in Europe to develop a Comenius project for 2009-11.

A Comenius project is funded by the European Union and aims to promote co-operation with schools across Europe.

In January, Mr Parlour and Mrs Coontz travelled to Munich to meet our future partners and to plan the project, 'The Iron Curtain'. Staff from schools in France, Germany, Hungary and Slovenia were present. A Polish school also hopes to join the group.

The project will encourage pupils in the Senior School to examine life on both sides of the Iron Curtain during the 1960s.

Much of the work will be done using e-mail and video-conferencing but there will be the opportunity to meet face-to-face in Hungary, Scotland and Germany for some of the pupils involved.

On 1st July we will learn if our application has been successful and full details of our involvement in the project will be given to pupils at the beginning of the Autumn Term.

AH French Trip

Where better to prepare for your Advanced Higher French oral than in the French capital?

On Sunday, 8th March, this year's AH French pupils, Abby Brown, Luisa Giuntini and Michael Foyle, set off on the early flight to Paris to immerse themselves in French culture. Mrs Coontz accompanied the class.

The pupils' first task was to buy metro tickets and to navigate their way through the metro system to the Louvre where they saw some major works of art.

At midday, to escape the rain, the class had a leisurely lunch in a typical French restaurant and afterwards emerged into sunshine and walked to Notre Dame Cathedral on l'Île de la Cité.

The next stop was the Eiffel Tower and the weather was clear enough to justify going to the very top from where the views were spectacular.

After afternoon tea in a comfortable café, the pupils walked to the Arc de Triomphe and from there strolled down the Champs-Élysées in the evening sunshine.

Before the flight home, there was time to spend the last few euros on French magazines to read on the plane.

Abby, Luisa and Michael sat their speaking exam on 16th March and the feedback on our group of gifted linguists was extremely positive.

Primary Tennis Coaching at Drumley

PRIMARY 1	Tuesday 3pm-4pm		28/4- 16/6
PRIMARY 3	Tuesday 4pm-5pm	4 week block	28/4, 5/5, 12/5, 19/5
PRIMARY 5 & 6	Tuesday 4pm-5pm	4 week block	26/5, 2/6, 9/6, 16/6
PRIMARY 2	Thursday 3pm-4pm		30/4- 18/6
PRIMARY 4	Thursday 4pm-5pm	4 week block	30/4, 7/5, 14/5, 21/5
PRIMARY 5 & 6	Thursday 4pm-5pm	4 week block	28/5, 4/6, 11/6, 18/6

If pupils have their own rackets please bring them along, if not one will be provided.

Please supply your child with a drink for during the session.

Subject to late cancellation due to bad weather.

SCHOOL NEWS

Infant Department

In the last week of term enterprising children in Primary 2 set up a stall to sell items of jewellery and stationery that had been made in class. The total raised was £28.05 which will be given to the RSPB who plant trees in the Sumatran Rainforest. Well done, Primary 2!

Pupils from the Infant Department had success in poetry competitions at the Ayrshire Festival. A number of children from P2 each recited "The Furry Ones" by Aileen Fisher, while several Primary 3 pupils gave individual performances of "Brother" by Mary Anne Hoberman. All pupils performed very confidently and received great praise from the adjudicator. A group of six pupils from Primary 3 gave a group recital of "The Ning Nang Nong" by Spike Milligan. They were the only competitors in their class, but that only made them more special!

Results: Primary 2 set poem: 1st Eilidh Thomson
2nd Meera Mohankrishnan
3rd Ellie Crosbie

Primary 3 set poem: 1st Alexandra Kendal
2nd Sophie Craig
3rd Eve Armstrong

Choral speaking: 1st Primary 3 Girls

All the pupils who competed have been having speech lessons with Mrs Westwood throughout this school session. This has been a new venture that has been extremely successful, helping to build children's confidence and performance, as well as allowing the children to have great fun! Hopefully this will continue to develop as one of the many opportunities offered to pupils at Wellington.

Primary Seven

Primary Seven pupils took part in a sponsored spell in February and raised the magnificent sum of £915.65 for the Teenage Cancer Trust. Many thanks to all who generously contributed to this worthwhile cause.

On Monday 16th March, Mr Martin from the Ayrshire Rivers Trust came to visit the Primary 7s to discuss river ecology and the setting up of a salmon hatchery in one of the laboratories. The pupils were involved for around ten days, monitoring and observing the salmon eggs hatch into alevins. The pupils then released the fry the following week into the River Doon.

Emily Westwood, from Primary 7 Culzean, was extremely successful at the recent Ayrshire Festival. She came first in four separate classes for reciting poetry and solo singing, and won the Ann Girdwood Memorial Trophy for her outstanding performance in the Speech & Drama Primary Category.